

Madison County Weed Board
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The Regular meeting of the Madison County Weed Board for March 16th, 2009 was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairperson Betty Sykes. Present at the meeting were Board members, John Armstrong, Charlie Gilman, Pete Novich, Program Assistant Dale Grose, Coordinator, Margie N. Edsall, Office Assistant Janie Alt, Absent was Board member Ted Coffman.

John Armstrong moved to approve the February 19th, 2009 meeting minutes, Charlie Gilman seconded. All voted aye & the motion carried

Old Business:

Office & Program : PAT trainings were held in Ennis & Sheridan on March 10 & 12. Margie said they both had great turnouts & will be holding another one in May in the Harrison area & one later on in the fall for those who still need to get their credits.

Margie visited with Steve Saunders, Dow AgroScience rep about the new product they have out on the market called Chapperel. Margie stated that Steve would like to do a few test plots using the product here in Madison County. Testing plots will be done on Knapweed, Field Scabious & Houndstongue.

Margie has been tracking SB 369 & SB 164. SB 369 is a bill Senator Esp is sponsoring to revise county process and penalties for violations of noxious weed laws & SB 164 is a bill Representative Barrett is sponsoring to revise FWP land management and acquisition re: The Good Neighbor Policy.

Margie stated that Mike Mooney, Dillon BLM, said that they will possibly be receiving an extra \$135,000 from stimulus. \$20,000 would fund the remaining amount requested for treatment of noxious weeds in the Dillon Field Office for the 09 field season. This would allow us to completely staff our spray crews & employ an additional 2 people plus we will be adding another spray unit & possible another 4wheeler. \$45,000 will go to the South Tobacco Roots Aerial Spraying Project: Aerial treatment of up to 1100 acres of noxious weeds consisting of Spotted knapweed & Dalmatian toadflax. Reseeding will be done to prevent re-infestation or infestation by other undesirables such as cheatgrass. \$30,000 will go to the Madison River Project. This project has some funding through the State of Montana but not enough to treat the whole river corridor. These funds will help aid this project by paying for the BLM managed sections of the River. The last \$40,000 will go to hiring 2 persons for mapping. They will be taking inventory of noxious weeds & cheatgrass infestations found on BLM managed lands within the Dillon Field Office.

Personnel: The Weed Board is now accepting applications for seasonal work. Applications can be picked up at Weed Board office, online at madison.mt.gov or by calling 843-5594. Compliance Tech will start 1st of May, partial crew will start mid May with full crews on by 1st of June. Deadline for applications will be 5:00 p.m. Friday April 10th. Interviews will be held 21st of April.

Margie also visited with the Board about possibly re-opening the position of Grant/Education/& incorporating the Compliance Tech into it. This will be discussed in the next meeting

Alder Facility: Chris Christenson, County Attorney, reviewed initial draft of the Contract for the facility being built by Bozeman Builders. Chris had made a few changes. It was then sent back to Jared Brown, Bozeman Builders for review. A few more changes were made. Then sent back & Chris approved final changes. Contract is now in the hand of the Commissioners to be signed off on.

Dale updated the Board on what he has been working on in the new weed shop & invited them to stop by and check out the progress.

Weed Management Plans: One subdivision plan was reviewed & approved with modifications for the Smiling Moose.

Grants Update: Grants that were funded were:

Norwegian	\$ 16,698.00
Madison	\$ 37,000.00
Vigilante	\$ 8,265.00

Other grants that were funded were E. Bench,, Beaverhead, Big Hole & Lower Jefferson

Budget: 2140 account has \$302,610 & 2840 account has 61,978.00

Other New Business None

Meeting adjourned at: 2:30

Next meeting will be April 21st, 2009

***Minutes respectively submitted by:
Janie Alt, Office Assistant***

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